

ATHENA PRESS

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By J. W. SMITH, PROPRIETOR.

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ATHENA, SEPTEMBER 1, 1893.

The lower house in congress by a majority of 103 passed the Wilson bill repealing the purchase clause of the Sherman law without any substitute. The bill was sent to the senate for its consideration and was referred to the finance committee, which reported back the Voorhees bill which also provides for the repeal of the Sherman law. But, as the senate has as yet set no date on which the vote shall be taken, it may be some time before we will be free from the iniquitous Sherman law. All parties are agreed that the Sherman law should be repealed. They agree that this law, which resulted from a compromise is the worst and darkest that ever befel the cause of bimetalism, or the honor and existence of silver money. The difference of opinion is the manner of its repeal. The advocates of silver desire to substitute a free coinage act in the place of the Sherman law, claiming that the unconditional repeal will carry us to monometalism, or make gold the only metal money of the United States, and thereby contract the circulation and double the debts of the laboring, debt paying nine-tenths of the American people by destroying half of the constitutional money. Those opposed to free coinage claim that an unconditional repeal of the Sherman law will not carry us to monometalism, and they point to the 600 millions dollars of legal tender silver and silver certificates which will be maintained on a parity with gold metalism. This silver they say nobody proposes to destroy, and that the gold of the country can probably carry it. But that the fear that it can carry no more is what is now the matter with money and credit; and before this disturbance can cease there must be assurance, through action of congress that there is to be limitation of silver issue. They also claim that free coinage would bring us to silver monometalism by driving gold from circulation and from the country.

Congress will doubtless repeal the Sherman law, but that will not settle the silver question. We will doubtless have silver coinage in some form, possibly through international agreement.

A few days ago a delegations of laboring men called on Governor Penoyer in this city and asked him to issue a proclamation for the labor holiday. Governor Penoyer told the men that Labor day was established by statute, and there would be much impropriety in his attempting to establish it by proclamation as for him to proclaim the Fourth of July a holiday, it would be an act of supererogation and would reflect no credit on anybody. When the people, through the legislature, set the date for labor holiday, it left nothing for the governor to do in that connection. Thanksgiving is not by law set for any particular date and the governor proclaims the date for that observance. If there were reason for having any other holiday not established by law, the governor's proclamation would be proper and necessary, as in colonial times special days were set apart for celebrating victories over the enemy in war or for timely success.

Though the governor thinks it unnecessary to issue a proclamation, he wishes that public attention might be called to the fact that the legislature at its last session changed the holiday known as Labor day from the first Saturday in June to the first Monday in September, and that such holiday might be strictly observed.

THE PRESIDENT'S SICKNESS.

There is a great deal of mystery shrouding Mr. Cleveland's illness, hence it will not be strange if all sorts of sensational stories get afloat. No one seems to know why the president's friends are so anxious to keep the public begoggled as to his real condition. The president of the United States is a public character whose every movement belongs to the public. He is so important a part of the government that the people have a right to know all that is necessary to know about him, and at this time the real condition of his health is of more importance than even the knowledge of his individual views concerning public questions. The death of the president is liable to bring about an entire change in the administrative policy of the government, and surely the people have an interest in knowing whether such an occurrence is within the range of probability. The story published by the Philadelphia Press that Mr. Cleveland had recently undergone a surgical operation for the removal of a cancer from the mouth, may be true or it may not be true; yet it was not printed for sensational purposes. The Press is a conservative newspaper, in no way given to sensationalism, and the story was printed in the belief that there was foundation for it. If the story be true, then there is no expectation that the president will live any great length of time, and death may come any day. If it is not true, and if there is no serious ailment then Mr. Cleveland owes it to the country to have his physicians make public a candid statement of his physical condition, and the president's fool friends should stop their endeavors to shroud his sickness in mystery. —Portland Telegram.

An item appeared in last week's issue of the Inland Republican stating that J. W. Maloney and myself were married to a couple of young ladies in this community. In justice to the young ladies whose names were mentioned, we will say the report, like all other news (?) which appears in that sheet is absolutely false. **JESSE SMITH.**

COMMENT ON THE WILSON BILL.

The house has voted to stop the purchase of silver by a majority of 129 on a vote of 349, thirty more than a two thirds vote. The bill now goes to the senate, which is the last citadel of folly and greed. It will not pass the senate by a majority nearly so great. Some persons have doubted whether it will pass the senate at all. They are wrong. The senate will vote to stop the purchase of silver because it must. It will no more dare refuse than the house of lords would dare refuse assent to any measure sent over from the house of commons, with positive and imperative public sentiment behind it. But the senate seems likely to do slowly and grudgingly what the house has done at last with its whole heart and soul. —Portland Telegram.

Yesterday's work in congress was a sorry job for Oregon and for Portland. It is a death blow to the industries of the mining states, and there is where Oregon products find a market and where Portland jobbers find their most profitable trade. Legislation against silver kills the goose that lays our golden egg. And yet, strange to say, there are Portland jobbers and lumbermen who are so hypnotized by bank influence that they are gold monomaniacs in spite of the fact that silver demonetization means utter ruin to themselves. Are our people indeed stricken with judicial blindness that they cannot see the danger with which they are environed? Oregon's only hope is in the failure of the senate to concur in the Wilson bill. —Portland Telegram.

BIG MEETING AT HELIX.

Resolutions of Principle Wheat Growers of that Section.

ED. PRESS: We send you a report of the proceedings of a meeting held by the farmers at Helix, Oregon, on Saturday Aug. 26 inst. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the best way out of the present depressed business situation. There were present at the meeting farmers from different parts of the county, Mr. Geo. Gibson manager of the Grange Store was elected chairman, Frank Lockwood of Vansycle ass't chairman and W. A. Sample, Secretary. Speeches were made by Gibson, Lockwood, Basy, Sample and others. A committee was appointed to draft resolutions and issue a call for a mass meeting of the citizens of the county. The committee presented the following

preamble and resolutions which were adopted and ordered sent to the press of the county for publication.

WHEREAS, the whole county is involved in the throes of a mighty business convulsions industrial enterprises are everywhere prostrated and millions of workers turned out of shop and mine to beg steal or starve, members of factories, banks and mercantile institutions have been compelled to suspend operations and many are forced into bankruptcy and ruin, the government crop report for August places the wheat yield at 67 per cent, a trifle over one half crop. And

WHEREAS we, as members of the wheat growers in convention assembled emphatically denounce and blame Wall street and the old world financial thieves for the present crisis which is but one of the many deep laid plots whereby the producer is compelled to sell his stock and crops at a price below the cost of production, and property every where is sold when forced sales is ordered at about one fourth its value. And

WHEREAS supply and demand, the legitimate factor in trade has been thrust aside and a freebooter scheme inaugurated by the money power and as there are thousands and millions of people in the United States that demand work or bread while the wheat grower has millions of wheat to spare to feed those starving brothers and their families they by reasons of having no work or money, while we cannot obtain one dollar upon our wheat at a living rate or at any rate our wheat hands are to pay and the Wall street gang and their allies sit and laugh at our embarrassment. And

THEREFORE, be it resolved by us in a body of true American citizens independent in mind and action though crippled by an unjust financial, we proclaim to the citizens of Umatilla county and to the world that we are here assembled not from choice but as the result of mans inhumanity to man and that while we do not intend to repudiate one of dollar our debts we must insist upon a proper financial system and a mode of doing business whereby those who produce the wealth can receive a fair profit from their toil from which they will then be able to meet obligations believing that it is a duty incumbent upon every citizen to prepare for all emergencies and to be ready at all times to protect their interests, we the committee appointed, call for a mass meeting of all citizens of Umatilla county, Bankers, merchants, mechanics, farmers and wage earners are urged to attend and it is to be hoped that an understanding can be arrived at whereby the farmers will not be compelled to part with their wheat at a ruinous price and where merchants, bankers and others will not be losers on account of credit extended to their customers.

THEREFORE we the committee set Saturday Sept. 9th, at 10 o'clock a. m. in Athena as the date of said meeting.

(W. A. SAMPLE,
Com. (Geo. GIBSON,
J. L. BASEY.

Grandpa's Letter.

To the Athena Press:
After a pleasant ride of ten and a half hours with usual stops, we arrived at the Union depot in Portland. After breakfast, we again boarded the train. Mrs. A. J. Parker got off at Gervis to visit her mother, and we sped on our way. Members of the Oregon annual conference which convened at 10 a. m. today, boarded the train at nearly every station.

The only excitement on the trip being at the depot where men and women rushed excitedly to and fro. I saw Bishop Goodsell and heard him preach. He delivered a good sermon; but I saw nothing peculiar about him, except almost unlimited power over the ministers and members. The attendance from a distance is very large. Their next conference is to be held at Eugene.

I leave the city to visit my old home and friends. I have enjoyed very hearty greetings of friends and acquaintances. One and all cry hard times, and I am inclined to believe them. Occasionally I meet a crank. He will begin "the tariff is gone, we are ruined, the democrats have done it all, they have ruined us, etc."

I visited the Orphans Home the forenoon of the 23rd inst. It is presided over by Mr. and Mrs. Sloane. They have in charge fifteen boys and girls from 2 to 12 years old apparently well cared for. The home contains a block with a three story building well arranged, heated by hot air, and when finished, it will be a home for the homeless waifs and I will try to tell you more of the home and other matters further on. I must say I am a little homesick.

E. C. McCLAIN.

The Daily News expresses the opinion that the repeal of the Sherman act will prove a serious blow to bimetalism throughout the world, but a great victory for common sense and the single standard.

We have left a few 3-inch Header trucks. The C. B. Barrett Co.

For Sale.
One thousand dollars will buy five acres of the best fruit land adjoining the townsite of Milton. Good soil and level ground, well irrigated and good water privileges. Two acres in strawberries. Will pay for itself in two years. **W. T. GILMAN.**

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DAVE TAYLOR AGENT.
Athena, Oregon.

Do You Want Money?
I have lately taken the agency for the D. S. Baker estate for loaning money on real estate in Umatilla county. Those contemplating securing loans will do well to call on me. Besides making loans as cheap or cheaper than any one else, I can assure you prompt action and less red tape. **W. T. GILMAN.**

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Geo. W. Proebstel
THE LIVE HARDWARE DEALER

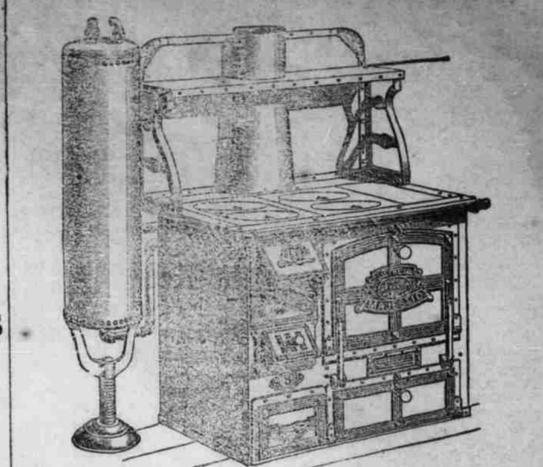
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Is now in its **NEW BUILDING,** On Corner of Main and 3rd Sts.,

Where we will be pleased to meet all of our old customers and as many new ones as we can accommodate, and we can accommodate a great many by giving them

To all Cash Purchases **A 10 Per Cent DISCOUNT** Of \$1.00 and Upwards.

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